

Bridging Distances in Healthcare

Roles and Responsibilities for Various Partners with RN Remote Sites

Vision: Rural Minnesota residents will have access to anytime, anywhere healthcare education through distance learning

Mission: To increase the accessibility of healthcare education in rural Minnesota communities to meet the healthcare worker shortage

Designated Remote Site (includes healthcare and community partners)

- Provide/arrange for technology, facilities (including lab space), clinical sites
- Maintain healthcare partnership
- Identify and provide appropriate match (cash and/or in-kind) that will help develop and sustain remote sites
- Identify and provide mentors to nursing students
- Help identify and foster health educators
- Maintain active participation on local advisory group
- Advocate the benefits of entering healthcare career
- Engage in recruitment efforts
- Submit project and match reports, as required by the grant and/or identified for project evaluation

Educational Partner

- Maintain partnerships with WorkForce Centers and healthcare facilities to continue to meet local healthcare workforce needs
- Develop, adapt, and implement flexible programs, including delivery methods, scheduling, location, etc., to meet the needs of non-traditional students
- Establish partnerships with other identified nursing education programs to develop/adapt a coordinated RN nursing curriculum that will meet the needs of rural students and healthcare facilities
- Provide educational and student services as needed for successful establishment of remote site 2-year RN nursing program:
 - Establish and maintain ongoing advising of students

- Complete admission and registration process
 - Provide financial aid and business office services as needed
 - Provide student accommodations as appropriate
 - Maintain student records
 - Provide other student services as needed, including library and tutoring
 - Provide ITV and technology support (in coordination with project management)
 - Provide/coordinate faculty and staff for classroom and clinical sites
 - Establish contracts with clinical sites
- Plan, implement, assess, and evaluate the off-site nursing program
 - Maintain active participation on local remote site advisory group(s) – include identify student representative for advisory group
 - Submit project and match reports, as required by the grant and/or identified for project evaluation

WorkForce Center

Serve as first point of contact with area healthcare providers that are interested in sponsoring a 2-year RN remote site, including site recommendations and referrals to the H1B project, and initiating healthcare provider meetings when and where appropriate

- Potential participant referrals, including special outreach to older workers, minorities, and those with disabilities (who are eligible for nursing program admission)
- Participant assessment (for those not referred/sponsored by their healthcare employers), including referral to remedial skills training if appropriate
- Maintain active participation on local remote site advisory group(s)
- Support for WIA / DW / MFIP eligible participants, as appropriate
- Participant placement
- Submit project and match reports, as required by the grant and/or identified for project evaluation

Project Management

- Overall development assistance, including:
 - Bring together healthcare, education, and WorkForce Center partners
 - Work with educational partner to adapt nursing curriculum for local area
 - Work with healthcare partners to develop appropriate clinical sites
 - Help partners identify and develop local match
 - Coordinate project and local resources for maximum sustainability potential of local site

- In coordination with advisory group, make recommendations for student selection for RN nursing student cohort
- In coordination with advisory group and educational partner, make recommendations for student selection for BSN and MSN programs, as a way to increase nursing faculty to support remote sites
- Work with technology resources to arrange local distance learning access, including ITV, computer labs, videoconferencing, etc.
- Financial assistance – grant funds may only be used for training costs. Examples could include:
 - Grants to students for tuition, books, fees, and nursing board exams (that are not covered by scholarships or employer assistance funds)
 - Site coordinator (if necessary)
 - Nursing faculty mentor/support
 - Other educational/training needs that are not covered by tuition
- Monitor and maintain overall grant
- Synthesize reports from all partners, submit as required by funding source
- Oversee public relations, outreach, and marketing materials
- Develop and implement evaluation plan to measure outcomes and results
- Work with all partners to develop sustainability plan

Local Advisory Group

- Make recommendations for local site development
- Provide information and/or materials for site management
- Develop priorities for student selection
- Review student applications
- Recommend students for acceptance into 2-year RN training, and BSN / MSN training with educational emphasis
- Other roles to be determined by local groups, including: What is role of this group once sites are developed? Sustainability issues? Assessment/evaluation?